

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1 and 14, and add new claims 17 and 18, as follows.

Listing of Claims

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An articulating medical table, comprising:
 - a stationary base;
 - a seat section mounted atop said base;
 - a back section atop said base and cooperating with said seat section to support a patient thereon, said back section moveable between a first, inclined orientation relative to said seat section, for supporting a patient in a seated position, and a second orientation substantially parallel to said seat section, to support a patient in a generally supine position; and
 - an actuating mechanism coupled to said back section and selectively operable to move said back section between said first and second orientations;
 - said seat section comprising:
 - a seat substrate including a first central aperture therethrough,
 - a seat frame including a planar surface with a second central aperture therethrough, said seat frame removably coupled to said seat substrate such that said second central aperture is in registration with said first central aperture, and
 - a layer of web material extending directly across said second central aperture and secured to said planar surface of said seat frame.

2. (ORIGINAL) The medical table of claim 1, wherein said web material is formed from elastomer.
3. (ORIGINAL) The medical table of claim 1, wherein said web material is stretched approximately 10% to approximately 20% of its unstretched length when it is secured to said seat frame.
4. (ORIGINAL) The medical table of claim 1, further comprising foot operated controls for activating said actuating mechanism.
5. (ORIGINAL) The medical table of claim 1, further comprising a footboard slidably coupled to said base, said footboard moveable from a first position disposed substantially beneath said seat section and a second position wherein said footboard extends outwardly from said seat section.
6. (ORIGINAL) The medical table of claim 1, further comprising a procedure tray slidably coupled to said base, said procedure tray moveable from a first position disposed substantially beneath said seat section and a second position wherein said procedure tray extends outwardly from said seat section.
7. (ORIGINAL) The medical table of claim 1, further comprising:
cushion material disposed over said web material.

8. (ORIGINAL) The medical table of claim 7, wherein said cushion material includes a layer of foam material and an upholstery cover layer.

9. (ORIGINAL) The medical table of claim 8, wherein said foam layer has a thickness of up to approximately 1.0 inch.

10. (ORIGINAL) The medical table of claim 8, wherein said foam layer has a thickness of up to approximately 0.5 inch.

11. (ORIGINAL) The medical table of claim 8, wherein said foam layer has a thickness of less than approximately 0.5 inch.

12. (ORIGINAL) The medical table of claim 1, further comprising a heater associated with at least one of said seat section and said back section.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The medical table of claim 1, wherein said central aperture through said seat frame has a width, transverse to a longitudinal direction of the table, of at least approximately 12.0 inches.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An articulating medical table, comprising:
- a stationary base;
 - a seat section mounted atop said base;
 - a back section atop said base and cooperating with said seat section to support a patient thereon, said back section moveable between a first, inclined orientation relative to said seat section, for supporting a patient in a seated position, and a second orientation substantially parallel to said seat section, to support a patient in a generally supine position; and
 - an actuating mechanism coupled to said back section and selectively operable to move said back section between said first and second orientations;
 - said seat section comprising:
 - a seat substrate defining a peripheral border and a first central aperture therethrough,
 - a seat frame defining a peripheral border and a second central aperture therethrough, said seat frame removably coupled to said seat substrate such that said second central aperture is in registration with said first central aperture, and
 - a layer of web material extending across said second central aperture and secured to said seat frame,
 - said central aperture sized to permit deflection of said web material therethrough upon loading of said seat section.

15. (CANCELED)

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The medical table of claim 14, wherein said web material extends directly across said central aperture.

17. (NEW) The medical table of claim 1, wherein said seat substrate is hingedly coupled to said back section.

18. (NEW) The medical table of claim 14, wherein said seat substrate is hingedly coupled to said back section.